

Message Text

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ACTION STR-02

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EA-06 H-01 INR-05 NSC-05

CIAE-00 EB-04 OMB-01 TRSE-00 L-01 IO-06 /046 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1338

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 14632

LIMDIS

USMTN

USEEC

FROM: AMB MANSFIELD TO AMB. STRAUSS AND INFO TO AMBASSADORS
HINTON, AND MCDONALD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR U.S. TRADE POLICY

REF: STATE 224210

1. I MUCH APPRECIATE YOUR MESSAGE REPORTING GROWING IMPATIENCE
AMONG KEY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS REGARDING TRADE PROBLEMS. YOU
MAY BE SURE THAT I WILL DRAW ON MY EXPERIENCE TO EMPHASIZE TO
HIGH-LEVEL JAPANESE THE SERIOUSNESS OF THAT RISING CONCERN AND
URGE THEM TO DEMONSTRATE A FIRM AND VISIBLE PUBLIC COMMITMENT
TO THE MTN.

2. IT IS TRUE THAT, DURING VISITS OF UNDER SECRETARY COOPER
AND AMBASSADOR WOLFF, THE JAPANESE DISPLAYED THEIR USUAL
CAUTION TOWARD COMMITTING THEMSELVES PUBLICLY. IN PART THEY ARE
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CHARACTERISTICALLY WATCHING THE EC AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS TO SEE
WHAT THEY DO. HOWEVER, I BELIEVE THAT THE JAPANESE ARE FULLY PRE-
PARED TO MAKE MEANINGFUL TARIFF AND OTHER CONCESSIONS IN THE
MTN, AND THAT, DESPITE OBVIOUS DIFFICULTIES, THEY WILL EXERT
THEIR BEST EFFORTS TO RESPOND TO UNDER SECRETARY COOPER'S CALL
FOR EARLY AND EFFECTIVE ACTION TO REVERSE THE TREND OF JAPAN'S
CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCE. THE JAPANESE YESTERDAY ANNOUNCED A

SERIES OF MEASURES INTENDED TO ALTER THE CURRENT BALANCE AND HAVE JUST RENEWED THEIR PLEDGE TO SUPPORT POSITIVE RESULTS AT THE MTN. THIS LATEST ANNOUNCEMENT REPRESENTS A POLITICAL DECISION AT CABINET LEVEL TO ACT, ALTHOUGH THE DETAILS HAVE NOT YET BEEN DECIDED.

3. IN THE COMING WEEKS MUCH WILL DEPEND ON THE PUBLIC ATTITUDE, GOOD FAITH AND SENSITIVITY DISPLAYED BY JAPAN, AND I WILL URGE THEM TO TAKE AN AS OPENLY POSITIVE APPROACH AS POSSIBLE. UNDER SECRETARY COOPER AND AMB. WOLFF SUCCESSFULLY INITIATED A PROCESS OF CHANGE. KEEPING THAT CHANGE MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION WILL REQUIRE OUR CONTINUING EFFORT. YOU AND AMBASSADORS HINTON AND MCDONALD WILL, I AM SURE, FFIRM THESE POINTS IN THE COURSE OF YOUR OWN CONTACTS WITH KEY JAPANESE OFFICIALS.

MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

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